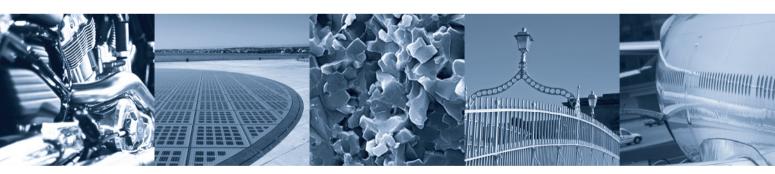


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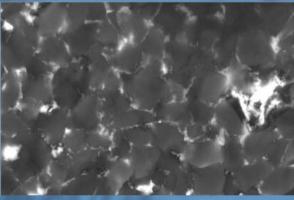
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Professor Leszek A. Dobrzanski M Dr hc **Editor-in-Chief of the AMSE President of the WAMME President of the ACMSSE**



Dear Readers,

The next issue of Archives of Materials Science and Engineering is handed over to PT Readers. As usual, we have tried to collect engaging scientific papers. We hope that they will be interesting for you. The 18th International Scientific Conference on the Contemporary Achievements in Mechanics, Manufacturing and Materials Science CAM3S'2012 will be organised on 27th-29th February 2012 in Gliwice – Ustroń, Poland by the World Academy of Materials and Manufacturing Engineering WAMME. In the Conference which will be accompanied by various other scientific events the participation of over 200 delegates is foreseen. Among overs the International Conference Finalising FORSURF Project on "The foresight of surface properties formation leading technologies of engineering materials and biomaterials" co-founded by the European Union from financial resources of the European Regional Development Fund of the European Union and also the occasional sessions on Prof. Zbigniew Rdzawski's 70th anniversary of his birthday will take place. I wish the delegates of the Conference and the accompanying events the successful debates, and a nice reading to the Readers of the next issue and as always encourage PT Authors to publish their papers in next issues of our journal



The paper written by M. Szutkowska, L. Jaworska, M. Rozmus, P. Klimczyk and M. Bucko on "Diamond composites with nanoceramic boride bonding phases" on a page 85 informs about basic mechanical properties of the studied tool composites and microstructure of diamond- titanium diboride composite, and diamond-titanium diboride-titanium nitride composite with participation of nanopowders. Composites were prepared on the basis of diamond powders of 3-6 μm (MDA36, Element Six) and the TiB₂/TiN nanopowders of below 45 nm (Neomat Co. Lithuania firm) and nanopowder of TiB₂ with size of crystallite below of 100 nm (American Elements firm). Different amount of a bonding phase changing in range from 10 to 30 wt% was used. Compacts in the shape of disc with dimension \$\phi15x5\$ mm were sintered at pressure 8.0±0.2 GPa and temperature of 2235 K using the Bridgman type apparatus. Microstructure studies using scanning microscope, X-ray and electron diffraction phase analysis were used. In this work the effect of reduction powder size from submicron scale to nano scale of two ceramic bonding phases: titanium diboride and titanium diboride-nitride in diamond composites on selected mechanical properties has been reported. The results show that using of the ${\rm TiB_2}$ powders in nano scale size increases the Vicker's hardness about 30 wt% in comparison to the use of the ${\rm TiB_2/TiN}$ phase. The influence of the bonding phase amount on the tested properties was observed. Vicker's hardness HVI was changed in the range from 20,0 to 50,0 GPa, Young's modulus (E) from 360 to 600 GPa and density (ρ) from 3,30 to 3,63 g/cm 3 . The highest values of Vickers hardness and Young's modulus were obtained for diamond composites sintered with 10 wt% TiB $_2$ of bonding phase. These investigations allow enhance possibility of using those materials as burnishing tools and rational use of existing ceramic tools.